

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 9, 23, 27 and 32 as follows. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for transmitting pages of an electronic document (100) from a client station (10, 12, 13) to a server station (11) connected to each other by a communication network (1), such that the document is processed by a processing peripheral (14, 20-22), said method including prior steps of generating (S401) processing orders corresponding to pages of an electronic document to be processed, storing (S401) the processing orders grouped by page of the document, and sending (S403) a message requesting processing of the document to the server station, said method comprising the steps of:

(A) receiving (S405) a request message, referred to as a page request, sent by the server station, the page request including information identifying a page of the document;

(B) translating (S407) in a computer communication language processing orders corresponding to the page identified in the page request; and

(C) sending (S409) to the server station a response message containing translated processing orders corresponding to the page identified in the page request.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein steps (A), (B), and (C) are recommenced until all pages of the document have been sent (S411).

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the request message includes an electronic address indicative of a storage location of orders corresponding to a first page of the document to be processed.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3, further comprising the step of, before said step of sending the request message, associating, with each page of the document, an electronic address indicative of a storage location of orders corresponding to that page,

wherein the response message, containing the translated orders of a page, also includes a storage electronic address of orders corresponding to a following page to be processed of the document; and

wherein the information identifying a page of the document, contained in the page request received from the server station, is a storage electronic address of orders corresponding to a page of the document.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the request message includes information identifying a processing peripheral.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 5, wherein the information identifying a peripheral is a network address identifying a peripheral on the network.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein orders corresponding to each page of the document to be processed are stored in a computer file.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the computer file for storing the orders is an EMF type file.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of processing an electronic document in a server station (11) connected via a communication network (1) to at least one client station (10, 12, 13), the server station being responsible for managing at least one electronic document processing peripheral (14, 20-22), said method comprising the steps of:

(D) receiving (S601, S607) a message coming from a client station, the message including page identification information identifying a page of an electronic document to be processed ~~of an electronic document~~ by a document processing peripheral managed by the server station;

(E) sending a request message (S605), referred to as a page request, to the client station, the page request including the page identification information, and aimed at obtaining from the client station processing orders corresponding to the page identified by the page identification information; and

(F) receiving (S607), in response to the sending step, a response message from the client station, the response message containing ~~the~~ processing orders corresponding to the identified page translated into a computer communication language.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising the step of receiving (S601) a processing request message from the client station, the processing request message including peripheral identification information for identifying a processing peripheral and information identifying a first page to be processed of the document, wherein the response message received (S607) from the client station also includes information identifying a following page to be processed of the document.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

(G) converting (S611) received orders from the computer communication language to a data format appropriate to processing the orders by the processing peripheral identified by the peripheral identification information; and

(H) processing (S613) the orders converted by the identified peripheral.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein said steps (E) to (H) are recommenced until all pages of the document have been processed.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the information identifying a page to be processed of the electronic document is an electronic address indicative of a storage location of orders corresponding to that page.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to any one of Claims 11 to 13, wherein said step (H) of processing the orders includes generating processing codes, from the converted orders, by a processing driver associated with the processing peripheral, and sending the codes to the processing peripheral.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 14, wherein the data format, appropriate to process the orders by the identified processing peripheral, is an EMF format.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1 or 9, wherein the communication network is an Internet type network.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1 or 9, wherein the client station and the server station communicate using a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) type communication protocol.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 17, wherein the processing request message, the response message containing the translated orders, and the page request are HTTP messages that include a supplementary field (Xnext) containing an electronic address corresponding to a page to be processed of the document.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1 or 9, wherein the computer communication language is a hypertext markup language (HTML) type language.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19, wherein the communication language is an XML language.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1 or 9, wherein an electronic address at which the orders corresponding to a page of the electronic document is stored is a URL type address.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1 or 9, wherein processing a document consists of printing the document.

23. (Currently Amended) A device (200) for transmitting pages of an electronic document by a client station (10, 12, 13) to a server station (11) connected by a communication network (1), with a view to processing the document (100) by means of a

processing peripheral (14, 20-22), said device including means (201) for generating processing orders corresponding to pages of the electronic document to be processed, means (205) for storing the processing orders grouped together by page of the document, and means (203) for sending a document processing request message to the server station, said device comprising:

- means (213) for receiving a request message, referred to as a page request, sent by the server station, the page request including page identification information identifying a page of the document;

- means (211) for translating into a computer communication language the processing orders corresponding to the identified page in the page request; and

- means (213) for sending to the server station a response message containing the translated processing orders corresponding to the identified page.

24. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 23, further comprising association means (207, 209) for associating with each page of the document an electronic address indicative of a storage location of orders corresponding to that page.

25. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 24, wherein said association means (207, 209) comprises:

- an association table (207) including, for each page of the document, an electronic address indicative of a storage location of orders corresponding to that page; and

- means (209) of updating the association table according to the document to be processed and pages of said document already processed.

26. (Previously Presented) A device according to Claim 24, further comprising means for transmitting pages of an electronic document by:

(A) receiving (S405) a request message, referred to as a page request, sent by the server station, the page request including information identifying a page of the document,

(B) translating (S407) in a computer communication language orders corresponding to the page identified in the page request; and

(C) sending (S409) to the server station a response message containing translated orders corresponding to the page identified in the page request,

wherein (A), (B), and (C) are recommenced until all pages of the document have been sent (S411).

27. (Currently Amended) A device (300) for processing an electronic document in a server station (11) connected via a communication network (1) to at least one client station (10, 12, 13), and responsible for managing at least one electronic document processing peripheral (14, 20-22), said device comprising:

- means (301) for receiving a message from a client station, the message including page identification information identifying a page of an electronic document to be processed ~~of an electronic document~~ by a document processing peripheral managed by the server station;

- means (301) for sending a request message, referred to as a page request, to the client station, the page request including the page identification information, and aimed at obtaining from the client station processing orders corresponding to the page identified by the page identification information; and

- means (301) for receiving, in response to the sending of the request message, a response message from the client station, the response message including processing orders corresponding to the identified page translated into a computer communication language.

28. (Previously Presented) A processing device according to Claim 27, further comprising means (301) for receiving a processing request message from the client station, the processing request message including information identifying a processing peripheral and information identifying a first page to be processed of the document, wherein the response message received from the client station also includes information identifying a following page to be processed of the document.

29. (Previously Presented) A processing device according to Claim 28, further comprising:

- means (306) for converting the received orders from the computer communication language into a data format appropriate for processing the orders by the processing peripheral identified by said peripheral identification information; and

- processing means (311, 313) for the processing, by the identified processing peripheral, the orders converted into the data format.

30. (Previously Presented) A processing device according to Claim 27, wherein said processing means (311, 313) comprises:

- means (313) for generating processing codes from the converted orders; and

- means (311) for sending the codes to the processing peripheral.

31. (Previously Presented) A processing device according to Claim 28, further comprising a processor that:

receives (S601, S607) a message coming from a client station, the message including page identification information identifying a page to be processed of an electronic document;

sends a request message (S605), referred to as a page request, to the client station, the page request including the page identification information, and aimed at obtaining from the client station processing orders corresponding to the page identified by the page identification information;

receives (S607) a response message from the client station, the response message containing the orders corresponding to the identified page translated into a computer communication language; and

receives (S601) a processing request message from the client station, the processing request message including peripheral identification information for identifying a processing peripheral and information identifying a first page to be processed of the document,

wherein the response message received (S607) from the client station also includes information identifying a following page to be processed of the document.

32. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising at least one of:

a device for transmitting pages of an electronic document; and

a device for processing an electronic document;

wherein said device for transmitting includes:

- means (213) for receiving a request message, referred to as a page request, sent by a server station, the page request including page identification information identifying a page of the document,

- means (211) for translating into a computer communication language orders corresponding to the identified page in the page request, and

- means (213) for sending to a server station a response message that includes the translated orders corresponding to the identified page, and

wherein said device for processing includes:

- means (301) for receiving a message from ~~the~~ a client station, the message including page identification information identifying a page to be processed of the electronic document;

- means (301) for sending a page request to the client station, the page request including the page identification information, and aimed at obtaining from the client station processing orders corresponding to the page identified by the page identification information, and

- means (301) for receiving a response message from the client station, the response message including the processing orders corresponding to the identified page translated into the computer communication language.

33. (Previously Presented) A client station connected to a communication network, said client station comprising a device for transmitting pages of an electronic document according to any one of Claims 23 to 26.

34. (Previously Presented) A server station connected to a communication network, said server station comprising a device for processing an electronic document according to any one of Claims 27 to 31.

35. (Previously Presented) A communication network comprising:
a client station according to Claim 23; and
a server station according to Claim 27.